

# Patoka Lake Nature Center

3084 N. Dillard Rd. Birdseye, IN 47513 PH. (812)685-2447

Open Tuesday- Sunday 8:30a.m. – 4p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

Visit our website: [www.stateparks.in.gov/2420.htm](http://www.stateparks.in.gov/2420.htm)

Follow us on Facebook!

## August 2015

ALL PROGRAMS ARE ON EASTERN TIME.

\*nc ~ Nature Center

\*ar ~ archery range

\*b ~ beach

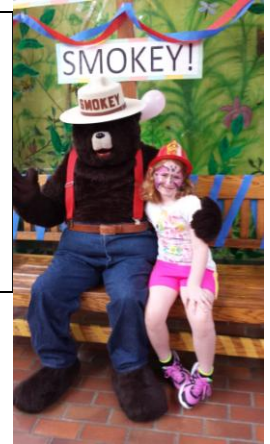
\*sh ~ shelterhouse

\*br~ boat ramp

\*cg~ campground

\*csh ~ modern campground shelter house

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> 10a.m. -12p.m. Smokey Bear's 71<sup>st</sup> Birthday Bash** -Join us for Smokey Bear's birthday bash at the Nature Center. Bring family and friends to enjoy activities for all ages. Bring a camera and take pictures with Smokey Bear. The Orange County Southeast Township Volunteer Fire Department will give a special demonstration & presentation! Kids have your fingerprints taken for your very own child safety identification card. Play games and make a Smokey craft! Enjoy a slice of cake and refreshments with Smokey. **nc**



**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey:** Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.

**12:30p.m. Talons, Beaks, and Instincts-** What unique tools do birds of prey use to survive in the wild? How do they hunt for prey? Find out this and more in the backyard at the Nature Center with two LIVE birds of prey! **nc**

**1:30p.m. The Cloud Club** – Ever wondered what kind of clouds were in the sky? How about what they can tell you about the weather? Learn about different cloud formations and make your very own cloud identifier! **nc**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> 10a.m. Dam Tower Tour** - Meet the naturalist at the Patoka Lake Dam off Highway 545 or meet at the Nature Center to car caravan to the Dam for this morning tour. Walk along with Corps of Engineers staff as you tour the inside of the actual dam tower feature! Learn about how the water level is controlled daily and what was done to prevent more serious flooding downstream this spring. (Caravan will leave at 9:30a.m.) **nc**

**12:30p.m. Turtle Time** - Come to the Nature Center to meet our non-releasable box turtle. Discover the life of these terrestrial reptiles while making a turtle craft to take home! **nc**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 9:30a.m. Kayak into Nature**-Meet the naturalist at the Fisherman's Campground Boat Ramp near the Nature Center. This tour will pass an active bald eagle nest. Look for osprey, beaver, bald eagles and more! Bring kayaks, life jackets and binoculars for this journey on the water. Non-motorized boat launch permits are required and will be sold at the event for \$5. **br**

**1p.m. S'mores Olympics-** In celebration of National S'mores Day ( August 10<sup>th</sup>) we will be fixing up s'mores around the campfire at the Nature Center fire pit. Compete in the Patoka Lake S'mores Olympics! **nc**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> 12:30p.m. Moery Story-** How would you feel traveling hundreds of miles from home in search of a new life? Listen to the story of a family who did just that and explore the Moery Cabin. **nc**

**2p.m. Survival Starters** – Do you have what it takes to survive alone in the wild? Hike with the naturalist to discuss and demonstrate basic survival techniques that could help you out in a pinch! **nc**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> 12:30p.m. Ecology of a Forest** – Forests and woodlands can change dramatically over time. Walk with the naturalist to learn about different forest types and their succession. **nc**

**2p.m. Wetland Wonders** – What is so important about wetlands? The naturalist will discuss and demonstrate the significance of these rare and interesting habitats. **nc**

## **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

### **COURSE INFO:**

**Swim 0.28 miles** in Patoka Lake, begin/finish at the beach.

**Bike 12.8 miles** on well paved roads around Patoka Lake.

**Run 3.1 miles** through the woods on groomed gravel roads and well paved bike trail.

**START TIME:** 8:30 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time

\*Packet pickup- Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> 8:30a.m. to 8p.m. at the Patoka Lake Office

\*Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> -Onsite check-in and packet pickup 6:30 to 7:45 a.m. at the Patoka Lake beach

\*Mandatory safety meeting 7:50a.m. on Saturday.

**Price:** Individual- Early Registration- \$40 (Through June 30<sup>th</sup>)

- \$45 (July 1<sup>st</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>) **Free T-shirt while supplies last if you register before August 1<sup>st</sup>**

-Late Registration- \$55 (starting August 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Team Registration - \$110 year-round

**REGISTER ONLINE AT:** <http://headforthehillspatokalaketriathlon.itsyourrace.com/>  
or at <http://triathlons.dnr.in.gov/> and click on the registration link.



## **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nature Center Open**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 9a.m. -3p.m. Beginner Waterfowl Hunting Workshop** – Topics will include waterfowl hunting regulations, waterfowl identification, equipment and techniques, including a show-and-tell segment, and how to dress a goose. Instructors will also focus on how to pursue geese and ducks with a minimum investment in gear. Parents who already hunt waterfowl are welcome to bring children since this is tailored for beginners. Lunch will be provided. This event will occur partially outdoors rain or shine. Participants should bring a lawn chair and weather-appropriate clothing such as a raincoat. *This workshop is free of charge but registration is required.* Participants must be registered no later than Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 3p.m. Call the Nature Center at (812)685-2447 to register. **nc**



**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 12:30p.m. Tree and Leaf ID** – Did you know that Indiana is home to over 80 native tree species? Stop by the Nature Center to learn both rare and common trees of our own backyards. Make a leaf ID booklet to take home! **nc**

**2p.m. Animal Homes and Habitats** – Whether it's in a tree, under a rock or in a stream, animal homes can be almost anywhere. Take a short hike to see these unique hideaways and what critters call them home! **nc**

## Coming in September

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> **Lake Cleanup Day** 8am -1pm  
at *Hoosier Hills Marina*  
***Free Lunch*** and Prize drawings start at 12:45p.m.



Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> **Wheelin' IN the Fish** – 10am -2pm  
at *Osborn Boat Ramp*

Free fishing and boating event for people with special needs and their families! Lunch and fishing equipment is provided!

